

## Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 STATE 213254

43

ORIGIN NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 AF-08 EUR-12 IO-13 ISO-00 PRS-01 H-02 SSM-05

PA-02 USIE-00 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 INRE-00 /061 R

DRAFTED BY NEA/P:MKBERRY:DP

APPROVED BY NEA/P:MKBERRY

S/PRS - MR. FUNSETH (INFO)

H - MR. FLATEN (INFO)

EUR/P - MR. JERABEK

AF/S - MR. WISNER

SSM - MR. MCANDREW

NEA/IAI - MR. SMITH

AF/P - MR. POPE

NEA - MS. GRIFFIN

----- 017946

O 271526Z AUG 76

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY PRETORIA IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY AMMAN

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY ALGIERS

USMISSION GENEVA

AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

AMCONSUL DHAHRAN

AMCONSUL JERUSALEM

AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM

AMEMBASSY MANAMA

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI

AMEMBASSY RABAT

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY ROME

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 STATE 213254

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

USMISSION NATO  
AMEMBASSY SANA  
AMEMBASSY TUNIS  
USINT BAGHDAD  
AMEMBASSY DOHA  
AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI  
AMEMBASSY NOUAKCHOTT  
AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO  
USMISSION SINAI  
USCINCEUR

UNCLAS STATE 213254

GENEVA FOR MEPC DEL, CINCEUR FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: N/A/

TAGS: PFOR

SUBJECT: DEPARTMENT PRESS BRIEFING - AUGUST 26, 1976

FOR YOUR INFORMATION AND GUIDANCE FOLLOWING ARE EXCERPTS  
FROM DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN'S PRESS BRIEFING FOR AUGUST 26,  
1976:

Q.

THERE'S A STORY IN THE BALTIMORE SUN TODAY FROM ISRAEL THAT  
SAYS THAT THE U.S. -- QUOTES SOURCES IN ISRAEL AS SAYING  
THAT THE U.S. HAD GIVEN ISRAEL VIRTUALLY BLANKET APPROVAL  
TO SEND TO SOUTH AFRICA WHATEVER U.S. ARMS ARE WANTED. IS  
THAT TRUE?

A. I HAD NOT SEEN THAT REPORT, BUT THAT STORY IS ABSOLUTELY  
FALSE. WE HAVE AN ARMS EMBARGO ON SOUTH AFRICA. AND I  
THINK IT IS WIDELY KNOWN THIS EMBARGO EXTENDS TO REQUESTS  
TO THIRD-COUNTRY SALES OF U.S.-ORIGIN EQUIPMENT OR TECHNO-  
LOGY TO SOUTH AFRICA AND, THEREFORE, WE DO NOT APPROVE  
SUCH TRANSFERS.

Q. WELL, IT DOES SEEM TO ME, IN LOOKING AT THE STORY,  
THAT THE STORY MAY POSSIBLY DEAL WITH THE ISRAELI SALE TO  
UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 03 STATE 213254

SOUTH AFRICA OF AMERICAN COMPONENTS ON WHICH IT SAYS THE  
UNITED STATES HAS WAIVED RESTRICTIONS.

NOW, THE UNITED STATES DOES HAVE RESTRICTIONS ON PARTS  
WHICH ARE MANUFACTURED OR PARTIALLY MANUFACTURED IN ISRAEL  
OR SUPPLIED BY THE UNITED STATES; AND HAS THE UNITED  
STATES GRANTED ISRAEL PERMISSION TO TRANSFER OR SELL THIS  
TYPE OF MATERIAL TO SOUTH AFRICA?

A. LET ME REPHRASE YOUR QUESTION. HAS ISRAEL ASKED PERMISSION TO SELL? AND THE ANSWER IS NO.

--TO GO BACK, THERE IS ALSO A REQUIREMENT BY ANY THIRD COUNTRY TO REQUEST OUR CONSENT ON COMPONENT PARTS. THE SAME APPLIES AS TO MY EARLIER STATEMENT ON THE ARMS EMBARGO.

Q. BOB, YOU WOULD NOT EXTEND THIS TO THE SALE OF ISRAELI-MANUFACTURED WEAPONS; WOULD YOU?

A. NO. I AM TALKING ABOUT THE SALE OF U.S. WEAPONS OR THINGS THAT WOULD CONTAIN COMPONENT PARTS PROVIDED BY THE UNITED STATES.

Q. I UNDERSTAND.

A. IT IS JUST NOT ISRAEL BUT APPLIES TO ANY COUNTRY REQUIRING OUR PERMISSION ON ANY ARMS TRANSFER.

Q. I UNDERSTAND THAT, BUT MY QUESTION IS WHETHER THE U.S. GOVERNMENT WOULD HAVE ANY OBJECTION TO ISRAEL SELLING WEAPONS THAT ARE PRODUCED AND MANUFACTURED IN ISRAEL TO SOUTH AFRICA.

A. I THINK THAT IS A QUESTION FOR ISRAEL TO DECIDE. OUR POSITION ON AN ARMS EMBARGO ON SOUTH AFRICA IS WELL KNOWN.

Q. HAS ISRAEL.

Q. WELL, I MEAN -- YES; CLEARLY, YOU'RE RIGHT. IT'S A QUESTION FOR ISRAEL TO DECIDE. BUT SINCE ISRAELI ARMS

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 04 STATE 213254

WOULD BE FREED BY THE PURCHASE OF SIMILAR AMERICAN WEAPONS, THERE IS A CERTAIN OVERLAP THERE; AND IT'S WITH THAT IN MIND THAT I'M ASKING THE QUESTION.

A. I JUST HAVE TO LIMIT MY RESPONSE TO MY EARLIER ANSWER.

Q. BOB, WHEN DID THAT ARMS EMBARGO GET STARTED?

A. EXCUSE ME. WHAT?

# UNCLASSIFIED

Q. WHEN DID THE ARMS EMBARGO TO SOUTH AFRICA START? I'M SORRY.

Q. '63?

A. I BELIEVE IT WAS OVER TEN YEARS AGO. I AM NOT SURE OF THE DATE. LET ME CHECK ON THE PRECISE DATE.

Q. DOES THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT HAVE ANY PRECISE EVIDENCE THAT THE ISRAELIS ARE VIOLATING THE TERMS OF THE VARIOUS -- THE TRANSFER PROVISIONS OF THE VARIOUS CONTRACTS THAT WE HAVE WITH THE ISRAELIS?

A. NO.

Q. HAS ISRAEL EVER DISCUSSED WITH U.S. OFFICIALS ITS ARMS-SALES POLICY TOWARDS SOUTH AFRICA?

A. NOT TO MY KNOWLEDGE, NO.

Q. DO YOU KNOW WHAT THE LIMITATIONS ARE -- WHAT SPECIFIC PENALTY, IF ANYTHING, IS PROVIDED; WHAT THE AGREEMENT SAYS ABOUT TRANSFER OF COMPONENT PARTS?

A. I THINK THE LARGER QUESTION IS WHAT DO WE DO IF A COUNTRY VIOLATES THE PROVISIONS UNDER WHICH THEY RECEIVE THE ARMS. OBVIOUSLY, A DECISION WOULD HAVE TO BE MADE ON THE NATURE OF ANY VIOLATION -- BUT SOMETHING TO WHICH WE ARE VERY STRONGLY OPPOSED TO THAT. IN ANY EVENT IT IS HYPOTHETICAL BECAUSE ISRAEL HAS NOT ASKED.

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 05 STATE 213254

Q. WHAT ARE THE PROVISIONS UNDER WHICH THE ISRAELIS RECEIVE ARMS AND TECHNOLOGICAL INSTRUCTION FROM THE UNITED STATES? THAT IS, WHAT ARE THE TRANSFER PROVISIONS RELATING TO THAT?

A. THE PROVISIONS UNDER WHICH ANY COUNTRY RECEIVES ARMS OR TECHNOLOGY IS FOR THEIR OWN DEFENSE. THAT IS THE BASIC LANGUAGE OF THE LAW.

--NOW, THE LANGUAGE ON RESTRICTIONS MAY VARY FROM CONTRACT TO CONTRACT, SO ONE WOULD HAVE TO HAVE A SPECIFIC CASE IN ORDER TO ANSWER.

Q. WELL, CAN YOU PROVIDE --

A. SOME OF THE CONTRACTS GO BACK A LONG TIME.

Q. COULD YOU PROVIDE, YOU KNOW, A TYPICAL COPY OF A CONTRACT WITH THE ISRAELIS?

A. I THINK THE LANGUAGE I PROVIDED IS THE GENERAL

LANGUAGE --

Q. FOR THEIR OWN DEFENSE.

A. -- AND IT IS IN THE LEGISLATIVE HISTORY OF THE BILL.

Q. IS THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT INTERPRETING THE  
CLAUSE "FOR THEIR OWN DEFENSE" THE SAME WAY THEY INTER-  
PRETED IT WITH RESPECT TO THE TURKS IN 1974?

A. YOU MEAN INTERPRETING ISRAEL IN THIS CASE?

Q. WELL, THERE SEEMED TO BE A FAIRLY LOOSE INTERPRETATION  
OF "FOR THEIR OWN DEFENSE" WITH RESPECT TO ARMS SENT TO  
THE TURKS IN 1974. NOW, THE ISRAELIS COULD MAKE IT --

A. I DID NOT REALIZE THAT THERE WAS AN INTERPRETATION AT  
THAT TIME.

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 06 STATE 213254

Q. WELL, THE QUESTION WAS ASKED IN THIS ROOM OF THE  
SECRETARY -- YOU KNOW, WHY AREN'T WE EMBARGOING ARMS TO THE  
TURKS WHEN THEY'RE USING IT FOR PURPOSES WHICH ARE CLEARLY  
NOT SELF-DEFENSE -- AND THE ANSWER WAS TO THE EFFECT:  
WELL, AS FAR AS WE'RE CONCERNED THEY'RE USING IT FOR  
DEFENSIVE PURPOSES.

A. I THINK WE HAD BETTER CHECK THE RECORD ON IT. THAT  
IS NOT MY RECOLLECTION OF THE RECORD OF THE PROBLEM IN  
TURKEY AND CYPRUS. BUT IN ANY CASE YOU ARE ASKING, IT  
SEEMS TO ME, A HYPOTHETICAL QUESTION. I THINK IT IS  
PRETTY CLEAR IN ITS GENERAL SENSE WHAT "SELF-DEFENSE"  
MEANS; AND IF THERE IS AN ALLEGED VIOLATION, IT WOULD HAVE  
TO BE EXAMINED AT THAT TIME, BASED ON THE FACTS THAT ARE  
AVAILABLE.

Q. BOB, THE BRUNIT OF WHAT YOU'RE SAYING HERE THOUGH IS  
THAT YOU ARE CONFIDENT THAT THIS IS NOT GOING ON BECAUSE  
ISRAEL HAS NOT ASKED.

A. YES.

Q. NOW, IS THAT A SUFFICIENT BASIS FOR CONFIDENCE THAT  
THE STORY IS NOT CORRECT?

A. I DO NOT SEE HOW -- YES; I WOULD THINK IT WOULD BE.

Q. WELL, SUPPOSE ISRAEL IS DOING IT WITHOUT ASKING?

A. WE DO NOT HAVE ANY KNOWLEDGE THAT ISRAEL IS DOING THAT  
OR ANY INDICATION THAT THEY WOULD. WE HAVE NO REASON TO  
BELIEVE THAT ISRAEL WOULD VIOLATE THE TERMS UNDER WHICH  
THEY RECEIVED MILITARY EQUIPMENT FROM US OR BOUGHT MILITARY  
EQUIPMENT FROM US.

KISSINGER

UNCLASSIFIED

NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** TEXT, PRESS CONFERENCES  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 27 AUG 1976  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** n/a  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** n/a  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:**  
**Disposition Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1976STATE213254  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** MKBERRY:DP  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** D760327-0882  
**From:** STATE  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1976/newtext/t19760811/aaaaajgc.tel  
**Line Count:** 284  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Office:** ORIGIN NEA  
**Original Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 6  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** n/a  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** harterdg  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 11 JAN 2005  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <26 APR 2004 by ReddocGW>; RELEASED <11 JAN 2005 by harterdg>; APPROVED <14 JAN 2005 by harterdg>  
**Review Markings:**

Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
04 MAY 2006

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** DEPARTMENT PRESS BRIEFING - AUGUST 26, 1976 FOR YOUR INFORMATION AND GUIDANCE FOLLOWING ARE EXCERPTS FROM DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN'S PRESS BRIEFING FOR AUG  
**TAGS:** PFOR, US  
**To:** PRETORIA  
TEL AVIV  
MULTIPLE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006

